

Take the plunge 冒险尝试

夏天到了，酷暑难当，李华和 Larry 一起去游泳。今天我们要学两个常用语：**few and far between** 和 **take the plunge**。

LH: Larry, 这几天怎么这么热啊，每天都有快 40 度！

L: I know! I have my air conditioner turned all the way to full power, and my apartment still feels really hot.

LH: 华盛顿每年夏天都这么热。

L: Even though summers in Washington DC can be hot, summers that are this hot are few and far between.

LH: 你说这么热的夏天是 few and far between? 这是什么意思？

L: Something that is few and far between is very rare.

LH: 哦，few and far between 就是很少见的意义。你是说，虽然华盛顿的夏天比较热，但像今年这么热的还是很少见的。

L: Right! Here is another example. Hurricane Katrina caused a lot of terrible damage in Louisiana. Luckily, hurricanes that big are few and far between.

LH: 对，像卡特里娜那种威力的飓风也是很少见的。Larry，你看天气预报了么？不知道什么时候会下雨，能凉快凉快？

L: Not any time soon. We can have a nice day having fun swimming. I've been so busy lately that my chances to relax have been few and far between.

LH: 是啊，你最近好像特别忙。怎么那么多工作啊？

L: Well there is a promotion opportunity for a great job at my company. Chances like this are few and far between, so I'm working really hard to get it.

LH: 现在经济不好，能有升职的机会的确不容易，你要好好争取！不过今天我们还是在游泳池里好好轻松一下吧！咱们去哪个泳池？

L: We're not going to the pool. My friend Andy is taking us out to swim in the ocean on his boat!

LH: 啊？你朋友 Andy 有船？这么有钱的朋友我怎么一个都没有！

L: Well that's true, friends with boats are few and far between, so you have to be careful to maintain the friendship.

LH: Larry, 你不会是因为 Andy 有钱才跟他当朋友的吧？

L: Of course not! But you know, Lihua, in heat like this, some friends might be more important than others.

Larry 和李华上了 Andy 的船，准备在海中畅游一番。

LH: Larry, 在游泳之前，我得问问你，这海里到底有没有鲨鱼啊？

L: Hmmm ... probably. But to be honest, right now I am more afraid of the sun than I am of any sharks.

LH: 你不在乎，我可在乎！我不想成为鲨鱼的下午茶！

L: Lihua, I understand that you are a little nervous. But sometimes you just have to take the plunge.

LH: Take the plunge? Plunge, 不是往下跳的意思么？你是说，让我不管三七二十一，跳进海里就好了？

L: Right! But you know, you can also say that you "take the plunge" any time you do something risky or scary.

LH: 哦，take the plunge 就是冒险一试。你是说，虽然我有些害怕，但还是应该果断地下水？

L: Right! For example, Anthony was really nervous about quitting his job and switching careers, but eventually he decided to take the plunge.

LH: 哦，Anthony 在辞职和改行的问题上一直挺犹豫的，但最后他还是决定冒险一试。这么说起来，我也有类似的经历，我来美国留学就是这样的！

L: Exactly! I bet it was a big decision to leave China and come to America, but you decided to take the plunge. Aren't you happy you did?

LH: 哈，那可不好说，如果下面有鲨鱼，我被吃了，那我来美国的决定可就是大错特错了！

L: Trust me, Lihua. The sharks out here are few and far between. And even if there are any around, I don't think sharks like Chinese food.

LH: 哦？你说鲨鱼不爱吃中餐？不如这样吧，Larry，你先跳下去，咱们看看鲨鱼是不是比较爱吃美国饭！

L: Well, let's find out! This sun is so hot that I'm willing to take the plunge. Are you ready, Lihua?

LH: 好吧！大海，我来啦！

今天李华学了两个常用语。一个是 **few and far between**，表示很少见。另一是 **take the plunge**，意思是冒险尝试。